

Nevada County Transportation Commission

The Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) is the Regional Transportation Planning Agency for Nevada County. NCTC coordinates state and federal transportation programs for Nevada County, the City of Grass Valley, Nevada City, and the Town of Truckee.

2007 NCTC Commissioners

Nate Beason, Chairman

Nevada County District I Supervisor

Tim Brady

Member-at-Large

Carolyn Wallace Dee

Truckee Town Council

Sally Harris, Vice Chairman

Nevada City Council

Chauncey Poston

Grass Valley City Council

John Spencer

Nevada County District III Supervisor

Russ Steele

Member-at-Large

This Newsletter is Prepared by the Staff of the Nevada County Transportation Commission

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The Nevada County Transportation Commission Newsletter is published quarterly. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please write or call the Nevada County Transportation Commission office.

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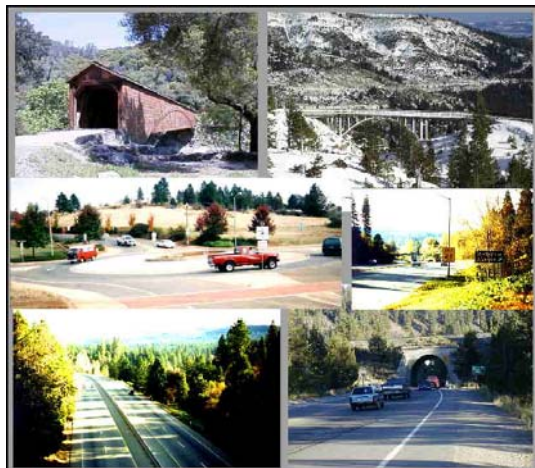
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Upcoming NCTC Meeting

The next meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission is scheduled on: **Wednesday, March 21, 2007 at 8:30 a.m., Nevada County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 950 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, CA.**

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101 Providence Mine Road, Suite 102
 Nevada City, CA 95959



NEVADA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

Issue 31

"Creating a better future by building upon successes of the past"

March 2007



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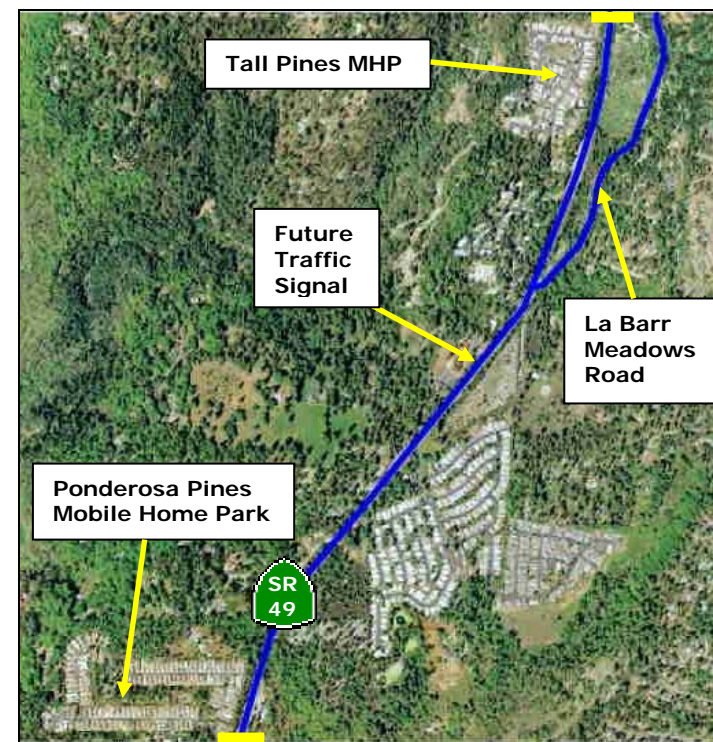
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California Transportation Commission Approves Funding for SR 49 Project

The California Transportation Commission (CTC) recently approved \$18.56 million to construct a signalization and five-lane widening project along a 1.5 mile stretch of State Route 49 in the vicinity of La Barr Meadows Road.

As a result of Proposition 1B approval by voters in the November 2006 election, the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) was set up with \$4.5 billion to be awarded for projects that relieve congestion and improve connectivity statewide. To be considered for funding, projects were submitted to the CTC, either by Caltrans Headquarters or by an individual Regional Transportation Planning Agency. Caltrans District 3 included the SR 49/La Barr Meadows Road project on the list they submitted to Headquarters, but the project was removed from the final Caltrans list by Headquarters so other congestion projects in District 3 could be submitted to the CTC.

NCTC Executive Director, Daniel Landon, decided to submit the SR 49 project directly to the CTC, since it met the criteria of improving connectivity and it would be ready for construction before the 2011 CMIA deadline. In the project submission Mr. Landon highlighted the ongoing joint efforts by Caltrans and NCTC to fund improvements to the SR 49 corridor. He noted that the first improvement on SR 49, the widening from the county line at the Bear River to the Wolf/Combie Road intersection, was completed under budget and ahead of schedule.



The project is located on a 1.5 mile stretch of SR 49

The CTC staff reviewed 149 projects and released an initial funding list on February 16th. Nevada County was pleased to see our project on the list to receive \$18.56 million for the construction portion of the project. On February 20th NCTC's Chairman, Nate Beason, spoke on behalf of Nevada County's project at a CMIA hearing held in Sacramento. Many other elected officials, including State Legislators and members of Congress, were at the hearing for the purpose of convincing the CTC that congestion relief projects in highly populated areas should be selected over connectivity projects in more rural regions. During the hearing, a letter from Governor Schwarzenegger was delivered to the CTC recommending that specific projects be added to the CMIA list. Both Senator Sam Aanestad and Assemblyman Rick Keene were very supportive of Nevada County's project during the deliberation process that led to adoption of the CMIA program.

On Wednesday February 28th, the CTC met in Irvine, CA and officially adopted the CMIA project list. The approved list includes \$18.56 million for construction of the SR 49 project. With this great news, Caltrans is moving forward with the design of the project, and construction is scheduled for Spring 2009. Caltrans will conduct a public workshop on this project in the near future.

There are \$3.6 million of pre-construction costs that remain to be funded. Caltrans District 3 has proposed to split these costs with NCTC. Funding for this project and other regional priorities will be discussed at the March 21st NCTC meeting (see pg. 4 for location). **NCTC**

Who Is The “NCTC” and What Do They Do?

In 2001 we did an article similar to this, and thought it was time to revisit this topic. What we offer here is an informal explanation of the organization entitled the “Nevada County Transportation Commission” (NCTC) and the individuals who serve you.

Even though our name suggests we are a part of the county, we are a Regional Transportation Planning Agency that is statutorily created by the State of California to coordinate transportation planning for, but independent of, Grass Valley, Nevada City, Nevada County, and the Town of Truckee.

The Commission consists of seven members. Four members are appointed by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors: two members are county supervisors and two are county at-large representatives. These four members are Nate Beason, John Spencer, Tim Brady and Russ Steele. The other three members of the Commission are appointed city/town council members from the three municipalities in the County: Sally Harris (Nevada City), Chauncey Poston (Grass Valley) and Carolyn Wallace Dee (Town of Truckee). Their role as a commissioner is to represent the transportation needs of the jurisdiction that appointed them, as well as work with each other to advise and direct NCTC staff on county-wide projects and priorities.

The staff members of NCTC are: Daniel B. Landon, Executive Director; Michael Woodman, Transportation Planner; Nancy Holman, Administrative Services Officer; and Toni Perry, Administrative Assistant. Staff’s role is to carry out directives set forth by the Commission. They also coordinate planning and communication with Caltrans, the decision makers of the municipalities, and the citizens of Nevada County as it relates to county transportation needs. Staff oversees planning of projects relating to roadways, transit and paratransit systems, bike and pedestrian walkways, railways, and airports in our County.

The Commission stays abreast of state legislative issues pertaining to transportation and discusses the stand they will take as a Commission. NCTC’s planning, communication and coordination with the county, cities, town and Caltrans are used to develop a 20-year Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP contains goals, objectives, and policy statements, and also identifies regional transportation needs and projects. The RTP compares the costs of transportation projects with expected revenues from regional, state and federal programs. NCTC develops annual work plans that are aimed at implementing the projects and programs identified in the RTP.

When transportation planning issues arise that cross county lines, NCTC meets with and works closely with representatives of other counties to coordinate and expedite a solution. An example of this is our working relationship with Placer County regarding the Truckee area transit system, the Truckee SR 89 railroad underpass bottleneck and safety issues (the Mousehole), and SR 49 corridor issues in south Nevada County.

As a citizen of Nevada County, have you ever wondered what course of action you could take when you have a transportation concern? You are welcome to write, call, fax, or email our office and detail your concern (see page 4 of this newsletter for office information). You can also attend NCTC’s bi-monthly meetings held the third Wednesday of every other month at 8:30 a.m. Public comments are welcome and you will hear the latest updates on Nevada County’s transportation projects. Locations for these meetings can be found on our website at <http://www.nctc.ca.gov/>. Take a few minutes to browse through our website and read up on “your” transportation commission and the commissioners who help to plan your county’s transportation systems. [NCTC](#)

Bicycle Master Plan Workshops



Bicyclist in Grass Valley maneuvers down Brunswick Road in traffic.

Eastern County Workshop

March 19, 2007
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Truckee Town Hall
Council Chambers (2nd floor)
10183 Truckee Airport Road
Truckee, CA

Western County Workshop

March 20, 2007
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Grass Valley City Hall
Hullender Room (lower level)
125 E. Main Street
Grass Valley, CA

The NCTC invites you to attend a public workshop to provide input on the Bicycle Master Plan Update for western and eastern Nevada County. Two workshops will be conducted by Alta Planning + Design, Inc. Their directive is to provide a blueprint for developing bicycle transportation facilities throughout Nevada County. The workshops will include a presentation on the update process, and an opportunity for the public to ask questions and make suggestions regarding the bikeway facilities they would like to see added in the county.

Please take a minute to fill out the online bicycle user survey that is a part of this effort at: <http://www.nctc.ca.gov/nctclow/poll.pdf> [NCTC](#)



Bicyclist in Truckee proceeds through the Mousehole.

New NCTC Commissioners



Chauncey Poston has lived in Nevada County since 1978. An experienced community leader, Chauncey served for four terms as President of the Nevada County Resource Conservation District. He worked to ensure sound and balanced land use decisions as a member of the Grass Valley Planning Commission. He is currently working to solve Grass Valley’s traffic problems as a member of the Grass Valley Traffic Safety Review Committee. In November 2006, he was elected to serve on Grass Valley’s City Council.

A successful businessperson, Chauncey received the Vision 2020 Award from the Sierra Business Council for his exemplary leadership and skills in building collaboration. He is currently the President of the Nevada County Board of Realtors.

Chauncey and his wife, Teresa, have been married for thirty years. Prior to their son Daniel’s departure for college, Chauncey was a youth basketball, soccer and baseball coach. They have lovingly restored their vintage home in downtown Grass Valley.

Chauncey is a veteran of the United States Navy where he served in Vietnam and Guam. When he returned home, he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources from California State University, Humboldt.

Contact Information:

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Carolyn Wallace Dee moved to Truckee fulfilling a dream of joining the mountain community with it’s wealth of charm and a quality of life that many have only heard of. From the day she arrived, Carolyn jumped in to community involvement with both feet. She is a founding officer of the Truckee Railroad Foundation, trying to bring a train museum to Truckee; she has served on the Board of Directors of the Lake Tahoe Music Festival; and she has worked as the staging director for the Annual Truckee Fourth of July Parade.

Carolyn currently serves as the Manager of Administration for Squaw Valley Ski Corporation. She grew up in the Bay Area, graduating from college with a double major in History and Art. Carolyn brings a wealth of experience and State contacts with her into the political arena, after running two non-profit business organizations in San Francisco that addressed quality of life issues, fair business practices and taxation of business, as well as the education of local politicians.

She is a voracious reader and an avid traveler, having visited six of the seven continents and probably over half the countries in the world. She has served for twenty-five years on the National Board of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and is involved with the Susan B. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Carolyn has four siblings scattered throughout California and a yellow lab housemate named Wally.

Contact Information:

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cdee@townoftruckee.com



John Spencer is a licensed professional land surveyor who owns and operates a surveying and development consulting business that has served Nevada and Placer Counties since 1984.

John moved to Nevada County in 1977 and worked in the county Department of Transportation from 1977 to 1984 reviewing and approving land use projects. From 2002 to 2004 John served as District 3 Planning Commissioner. In 2004 he was elected as District 3 Supervisor, after the resignation of Drew Bedwell. John was reelected in 2006, and in 2007 was selected as Board Chair.

John serves on a number of advisory boards, including the county’s Budget Review Committee, Economic Resource Council, Mental Health Advisory Board, Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District Board, Golden Sierra Job Training Agency Governing Body, and the Transit Services Commission.

Committed to the betterment of his profession and his community, John has been heavily involved in volunteer work with the Grass Valley and Nevada City Chambers of Commerce. His business donated survey work for community parks, including the Grass Valley Skate Park and the Manzanita House Play Area.

John’s other interests include the Business Resource Group, the Chamber Governmental Affairs Committee, the Alliance for a Livable Community, and the Nevada County Business Association. He also enjoys continuing education and graduated from the first class of the Community Leadership Institute in 1996.

John is happily married to his best friend, Patricia Ingram-Spencer. He is the proud parent of Jeffrey, and Jessica Werntz. John enjoys his grandchildren Madalyn Rae Werntz and Flynn Baer. [NCTC](#)